

**Division of
Building
Safety**

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NM Cable in Damp Locations

We have had several questions relating to the need to have a building covered (Dried in) before they can be wired.

The first place to look for code references is in 110.3 Examination, Identification, Installation and Use of Equipment. Part (B) of this code article tells use that it must be labeled and listed for the use.

We then move to 110.11 Deteriorating Agents. Unless identified for use in the operating environment, no conductors or equipment shall be located in damp or wet locations; where exposed to gases, fumes, vapors, liquids, or other agents that have a deteriorating effect on the conductors or equipment; or where exposed to excessive temperatures. **Equipment identified only as “dry locations,” “Type 1,” or “indoor use only” shall be protected against permanent damage from the weather during building construction.**

We then move to 334.12 (10) Types NM and NMS. Types NM and NMS cable shall not be used as follows:
d. **Where exposed or subject to excessive moisture or dampness.**

In considering if wiring can be done before the building is dried in the answer is no, if the wire method or equipment used is of the type that can not be used in a wet or damp location.